

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

William S. Kirk, Iron Ore Commodity Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
989 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-4962, Fax: (703) 648-7757
E-mail: wkirk@usgs.gov

Jim Peang (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7978
Fax: (703) 648-7975
E-mail: jpeang@usgs.gov

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

IRON ORE IN JULY 2003

U.S. mine production of iron ore in July 2003, on a daily average basis, was 2% higher than that of the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Average daily production was 126 thousand metric tons per day (t/d), compared with 125 thousand t/d in June. Production in July 2002 was 143 thousand t/d. Shipments decreased by 11% compared with those of the previous month. Mine stocks at the

end of the month were 8% lower than at the end of the previous month.

Note

All data in this report have been rounded to no more than three significant digits. Totals and percentages were calculated by using unrounded data.

TABLE 1
U.S. PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE^{1,2}
(Exclusive of ore containing 5% or more of manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Production		Shipments	
	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date
2002:				
July	4,430	28,500	5,720	27,300
August	4,580	33,100	5,530	32,800
September	4,270	37,400	4,910	37,700
October	4,650	42,000	4,790	42,500
November	4,740	46,800	4,480	47,000
December	4,700	51,500	5,040	52,000
2003:				
January	4,310	4,310	2,880	2,880
February	4,290	8,610	1,140	4,030
March	4,080	12,700	1,810	5,830
April	4,230	16,900	4,790	10,600
May	4,010	20,900	5,340	16,000
June	3,740	24,700	4,840	20,800
July	3,920	28,600	4,450	25,200

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²Excludes byproduct ores.

TABLE 2
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE IN JULY^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

State	Production		Shipments ³		Stocks ⁴	
	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002
Michigan	1,240	750	1,290	1,110	1,300	1,070
Minnesota	2,680	3,680	3,160	4,610	5,250	3,950
Total	3,920	4,430	4,450	5,720	6,550	5,020

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Excludes byproduct ore.

³Includes rail and vessel.

⁴Includes mines, plants, and loading docks.

TABLE 3
CANADA: SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE¹

(Thousand dry metric tons)

Period	Newfoundland	Quebec	British Columbia	Total
2002:				
May	2,390	1,240	8	3,630
June	1,530	828	6	2,370
July	2,290	1,020	7	3,320
August	1,770	940	9	2,720
September	1,970	1,250	7	3,220
October	2,040	1,180	8	3,220
November	2,100	1,390	7	3,500
December	1,100	1,020	5	2,120
Year total	18,900	11,900	91	30,800
2003:				
January	862	699	6	1,570
February	674	580	6	1,260
March	989	578	7	1,570
April	1,800	1,120	5	2,930
May	1,960	1,540	4	3,510
June	1,730	1,260	6	2,990

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: Natural Resources Canada.

TABLE 4
CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE AND BLAST FURNACE PRODUCTION OF HOT METAL AT U.S. IRON AND STEEL PLANTS^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Consumption by source	Consumption of ores and agglomerates			
	June		January-June	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
United States ores	3,890	3,790	23,100	23,100
Canadian ores	244	341 ^r	1,820	1,670
Foreign ores	383	525 ^r	3,490	3,300
Total	4,520	4,660	28,500	28,100
Consumption by process				
Blast furnaces	4,080	4,200	25,700	25,500
Steel furnaces	4	14	107	33
Agglomerating plants ³	430	439	2,620	2,610
Miscellaneous ⁴	--	--	--	2
Total	4,520	4,660	28,500	28,100
Stocks of ores and agglomerates, June 30				
Storage point	2003	2002		
Furnace yards	9,980	8,430		
Receiving/transfer docks	872	1,330		
Total consumer	10,800	9,760		
Blast furnace production of hot metal				
	June		January-June ⁵	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	3,240	3,280	20,100	19,100
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	30	30	XX	XX

^rRevised. XX Not applicable -- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes agglomerates.

³Iron ore and iron ore concentrates consumed in agglomerating plants not located at the mine or plant site.

⁴Sold to nonreporting companies or used for purposes not listed.

⁵Includes revisions to previous month's data.

Sources: American Iron Ore Association (consumption of iron ore) and American Iron and Steel Institute (production of hot metal and pig iron).

TABLE 5
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON ORE, BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION AND TYPE^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination and type	2002	2003			
	4th quarter	1st quarter	April	May	June
Canada	1,470	757	569	655	838
Mexico	11	3	(3)	(3)	(3)
Other	1	1	(3)	3	1
Total	1,480	761	569	658	839
Pellets	1,460	756	568	655	837
Other	26	4	1	3	2
Total	1,480	761	569	658	839

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes agglomerates.

³Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE, BY COUNTRY AND TYPE^{1,2}
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

Country of origin and type of product	2003					2002
	June		Year to date			January-June
	Thousand metric tons	Value ³ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value ³ (thousand dollars)	Value ³ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	(4)	4	128	1,110	8.63	314
Brazil	445	9,890	2,520	59,000	23.42	2,510
Canada	777	20,700	2,560	69,500	27.10	1,660
Chile	84	1,740	178	3,740	21.01	116
Norway	4	107	4	107	26.65	10
Peru	--	--	29	492	16.94	69 ^r
Other	21	480	51	1,270	24.78	121 ^r
Total	1,330	32,900	5,470	135,000	24.70 ⁵	4,800
Concentrates	83	1,800	471	8,900	18.90	239
Coarse ores	21	480	24	627	25.86	3
Fine ores	313	5,250	1,060	16,200	15.29	1,590
Pellets	864	24,500	3,700	105,000	28.52	2,760
Briquettes	--	--	--	--	--	39
Other agglomerates	51	864	217	3,790	17.47	162
Roasted pyrites	--	--	4	178	49.92	7
Total	1,330	32,900	5,470	135,000	24.70 ⁵	4,800

^rRevised. -- Zero.

¹Data, with the exception of the dollars per ton column, are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes agglomerates.

³Customs value. Excludes international freight and insurance charges.

⁴Less than 1/2 unit.

⁵Weighted average calculated by dividing total value by total tonnage.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE IN JUNE 2003^{1,2}
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of origin	Type of product						Total
	Concentrates	Coarse ores	Fine ores	Pellets	Briquettes and other agglomerates	Roasted pyrites	
Brazil	--	--	228	217	--	--	445
Canada	27	--	53	647	51	--	777
Other	56	21	32	--	--	--	110
Total	83	21	313	864	51	--	1,330

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes agglomerates.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS, BY COUNTRY¹

Country of origin	2003					2002
	June		Year to date			January-June
	Thousand metric tons	Value ² (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value ² (thousand dollars)	Value ² (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	217	6,020	1,540	42,800	27.86	1,330
Canada	647	18,500	2,160	62,700	28.98	1,430
Total	864	24,500	3,700	105,000	28.52 ³	2,760

¹Data, with the exception of the dollars per ton column, are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Customs value. Excludes international freight and insurance charges.

³Weighted average calculated by dividing total value by total tonnage.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 9
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE,
BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT^{1, 2}
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	June	January-June	
	2003	2003	2002
Baltimore, MD (13)	216	1,670	2,160
Buffalo, NY (09)	--	3	1
Charleston, SC (16)	--	106	79
Chicago, IL (39)	161	372	238
Cleveland, OH (41)	451	1,200	343
Columbia - Snake, OR (29)	--	--	28
Detroit, MI (38)	--	49	117
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	37	28
Laredo, TX (23)	--	--	11
Los Angeles, CA (27)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Miami, FL (52)	--	--	4
Mobile, AL (19)	4	63	92
New Orleans, LA (20)	478	1,950	1,650
Ogdensburg, NY (07)	--	1	--
Philadelphia, PA (11)	21	24	3
Providence, RI (05)	--	--	34
San Juan, PR (49)	--	--	10
Total	1,330	5,470	4,800

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes agglomerates.

³Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 10
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS,
BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	June	January-June	
	2003	2003	2002
Baltimore, MD (13)	18	532	770
Charleston, SC (16)	--	105	79
Chicago, IL (39)	--	--	82
Cleveland, OH (41)	451	1,200	343
Detroit, MI (38)	--	49	94
Houston-Galveston, TX (53)	--	37	17
Laredo, TX (23)	--	--	11
Mobile, AL (19)	--	59	60
New Orleans, LA (20)	394	1,710	1,300
Total	864	3,700	2,760

--Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.